CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	2E4D291B6DA9A636
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	2000221.028
Medium:	Image File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	09 September 2020
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	08 September 2020

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image file depicts a man sexually abusing a girl. It is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children or young persons for sexual purposes. It presents girls as sexually available and appropriate subjects for adult sexual use, and further encourages and legitimises such an interest. The image is clearly intended to be sexually arousing to people with a prurient interest in young girls. The image may also be used for grooming purposes. The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 on the application of the classification criteria. The objectionable classification given to this image interferes with the right to freedom of expression, but this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications that promote and support the exploitation of children or young persons for sexual purposes be deemed objectionable. It is also reflects the concerns of a "free and democratic" society to protect its young and vulnerable members from exploitation.